A BRIEF RELATION OF A VICTORY,

Obtained by the Forces under the Command of Gen. *Edward Doyley*, Commander in chief of his Highneſſe's Forces in the Iſland of JAMAICA.

AGAINST

The Forces of the King of SPAIN, Commanded by Don *Chriſtopher Arnaldo Saſi*, Comander in chief of the Spaniſh Forces there.

Right Honourable,

THE Eighth of *May* laſt, the *Spaniards* made good my Intelligence to your Honour, by landing thirty Captains, thirty Alferes, and thirty Companies of foot, at a place called *Rio Nova* in the North of this

Iſland, who were there about twelve dayes before they were diſcovered; at which time our Ships plying up and down ſaw three ſail of *Spaniſh* in that Bay, and made an attempt to have boarded them, but being becalmed could not effect it. That night the *Spaniards* ſtole away, and our Ships came to acquaint me therewith. I immediatly called a Councill of War, as the affair did importuue, and we debated, Whether it were moſt advantagious to aſſault them preſently, or let them partake of the diſtempers and want of the Country, and when ſickneſſe had weakned them, to attempt them then; though much might have been and was urged, how Invaders were to be uſed with delayes, &c. yet the exceeding deſire of the Officers and Souldiers to be doing with them, cut off all debates, and determined a ſudden Reſolution to fall upon them before they were Fortified, So I commanded out 750. Officers

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and Souldiers, and on the 11th. of *June* laſt, we ſet ſail from this Harbour towards them, and on the 22th. in the morning we landing on a Bay, which was defended by two Companies and two Captains, within half ſhot of their Cannon, playing from their Fort; Our Forlorn went on with ſuch gallantry, and leapt into the water with ſo much chearfulneſſe, that perſwaded the Enemy they would not be denied entrance, and ſo they ran, leaving one of their Captains, and about 23. ſlain, the other we took wounded, who died ſince; then we made all the haſt, and in the ſpace of an hour landed our men, their Cannon playing all the while on us with little ſucceſſe: that day we ſpent in playing upon their Fort from our Ships, though the place being of ſo vaſt a height, they could bear to do them little harm. The next day, underſtanding their numbers to be more than ours, we were at a ſtand how to attempt

them, having fortified themſelves, and having ſix peeces of Ordnance, and a River to to paſſe, the depth whereof we knew not; VVherefore, after our Ladders were made, and other things fitted aſwell as we could, in the evening I ſent a Drummer, partly to diſcover the depth of the River he was to paſſe, with this Summons following;

SIR,

BEing here with the Forces of the Mighty Prince, the Protector of England, *and the Dominions thereunto belonging, I do in his Name, and for his uſe, require and ſummon you, to deliver-up the Fort of* Rio Nova, *with the Ordnance and Ammunition therein; aſſuring you honourable tearms, and tranſport to your Country: which if you refuſe, I ſhall be acquitted of the bloud which ſhall be ſhed. I expect the return of my Drummer within an hour, and am, Your very humble ſervant,*

For Don *Chriſtopher Arnaldo Baſi*, Commander in chief of the Spaniſh Forces.

E. D.

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The Drummer was very civilly treated, the General gave him 25. pieces of Eight, ſent me a Jar of Sweet-meats, and this Anſwer.

LORD GENERAL,

DON Chriſtopher Arnaldo & Saſa, *Governour for his Majeſty the King of* Spain, *my Lord of the Iſland of* Jamaica, *anſwering to your Letter, wherein you require me to deliver the Fort of* Rio Nova *and what elſe is therein; I ſay, Sir, that his Majeſty (whom God preſerve) hath appointed me for Governour of this Iſland, being his own property, and hath remitted me unto it a Regiment of Spaniſh Infantry, and twenty foot Companies to defend it; the Forts and Caſtles of his Majeſtie are not yeelded with ſo much facility; hitherto I have received no batteries, nor have you made any advance, I want no Powder, Ball, Proviſions, nor gallant Men, that know how to die before they be overcome. God keep your Honour many years in thoſe Comands that you deſire.*

Don Chriſtopher Arnaldo Saſa, *to the General Monſieur Monſieur* Doyley, *Governour General of the Forces of* England, *Theſe.*

We made no more demurs, but resolved to march the morrow morning. So I ordered two of our Vessels to set sail Leeward, to perswade them we intend to stand on that side of them, the other ships to warp as near as they could, and play on them, while we fell on the other side: We marched assoon as it was light, having two miles to go, being through a Wood on the backside of them; about a quarter of a mile from their Fort we met a party on a Work, on a high Hill, prepared to obstruct our going over the River, who only gave us a fruitlesse Volley, ran to their Fort and told them, All the world was coming; we climbed that Hill with much ado, refreshed our wearinesse and advanced; when we came in sight of their Fort, which we found, to our exceeding joy, was not finished to that height as that to the Seaward: We ordered our businesse with our forlorn Ladders and Hand-Granadoes, and without

out any further diſpute, received their ſhot and ran up to their Flankers, which, in a quarter of an hour, we gained; many of them made ſhift to run out of their Works, and ours followed their chaſe about three or four miles, doing execution; the Seamen likewiſe, ſeeing of them run along the Rocks, came out with their Boats and killed many of them.

In this Fort we took about Ten double Barrels of Pouder; Shot, great ſtore; Six Peeces of Ordnance; great ſtore of Proviſions, Wine, Brandie, Salt, Oile, and other Proviſions for eight months, as they termed it. There was ſlain about Three hundred perſons, divers Captains, two Prieſts, and their Serjeant Major: About an hundred ordinary Priſoners taken, and ſix Captains which we have ſent home; the King of *Spain's* Standard, and ten Colours; the reſt, eſpecially the ſtraglers that are in the

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VVoods, must of necessity perish.

Though this Mercy was very great, yet our joy had some abatement, by the losse of Captain *Wiseman*, Capt. *Meers*, Capt. Lieut. *Walker*, Capt. Lieut. *Robinson*, and Ensign *Farrar*, men, for their gallantry, rather to be admired than commended; about twenty three private Souldiers killed, and thirty four wounded, whereof some are since dead; some other of our Officers slightly wounded with stones. *Thus hath the Lord made known His Salvation: His Righteousness hath He openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.* I have sent this short Narration, because it comes by Colonel *Barrey*, who was an eye-witnesse, and principall Actor herein, and rest,

Your Honours faithful servant,

Caway in *Jamaica*, the 12th *July*, 1658.

EDW. DOYLEY.

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